

# Domestic Geographic Name Report

1 Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544..

5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic  
Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, VA 22092

## Action Requested

Proposed New Name: X

Application Change:       

Name Change:       

Other:       

Recommended Name: Dalteli Lake

State: Alaska

County or Equivalent: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Administrative Area: Partially within Denali State Park

## Specific Area Covered:

Latitude: 62.550 N Longitude: -150.3655 W (center, WGS 84)

Meridian Seward, Township 28N, Range 6W, Section 03 and Township 29N, Range 6W, Section 34  
Elevation 845 ft

Location 1.5 miles NE of Swan Lake and Approximately 15 miles N of Trapper Creek

Type of Feature (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Lake

Is the feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?

Yes    No X            If Yes, how is it listed?

Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):

The lake is approximately 4900 ft. long and 900 ft. wide, with the long axis trending North-South, and drains into a stream to the South.

Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date)

"Living the Alaska Dream," pp. 42-45, 53-54, Vol. 53, No. 9, *Alaska Magazine*, Sept. 1987

Kari, J., ed., 1977. *Dena'ina Noun Dictionary*. Alaska Native Language Center. Pp. 63.

Other Name (Variants)

Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date)

**Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:**

Dalteli means berry buds (blossoms) which were used by the Dena'ina of the Upper Inlet (Cook Inlet). The lake is surrounded by a variety of berries, including blueberries, high bush cranberries, and cloudberrries in the adjoining forest and muskegs. Area residents and commercial aircraft pilots have used the proposed name for over 40 years. The spelling comes from the 1977 *Dena'ina Noun Dictionary* compiled by James Kari of the Alaska Native Language Center at UAF. The northern half of the lake is located within Denali State Park. Mr. Kari commented on February 1, 2021, that "The Robinson proposal cites the 1977 spelling of **dalteli**. Can you please convey to Mr. Robinson that I applaud the fact that this name has been in use locally since the 1980s and that I would support the name if it is spelled as it is said in Dena'ina, i.e. Dalteli Lake."

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**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes   X   No        If Yes, approximately how many years?   40  

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**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?**

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**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:**

USGS Talkeetna C-1 Quad Map (1:63,360) does not feature a name for the lake.

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Requests for responses to the proposal were sent to the following:

Ricky Gease, Director, Alaska State Parks – replied 02/10/2021 "I endorse the proposed name because: it has been in use locally for many years, is linguistically appropriate Alaska Native name, is descriptive and relevant feature, and has strong community support."

Stuart Leidner, Superintendent, Mat-Su Area, Alaska State Parks – replied 02/09/2021 "I endorse the proposed name because: the proposal appears to have been well researched/vetted and is appropriate based on stipulations set forth by State."

Matt Wedeking, Division Operations Manager, Alaska State Parks – replied 02/10/2021 "I endorse the proposed name because: No operational or management issues."

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, Matanuska-Susitna Borough – replied 04/09/2021 with Planning Commission Resolution No. 21-06: "WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department has received a request for comments from the Alaska Historical Commission regarding a proposal to make official the name Dalteli Lake for an unnamed lake in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission is designated by statute as the Geographic Names Board for the State of Alaska. The commission coordinates the program to name physical features in the State with the United States Board on Geographic Names; and

WHEREAS, the unnamed lake is located approximately 4 miles west of mile 132, North Parks Highway; the northern half of the lake is within Denali State Park; and

WHEREAS, the lake is located within Township 28 North, Range 6 West, Section 3 and Township 29 North, Range 6 West, Section 34, Seward Meridian, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, according to the information provided in the proposal, many residents, local pilots, and air services surrounding or familiar with the lake have known it as Dalteli Lake for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, the proposal included letters of support for the proposed name from past and present property owners surrounding the lake; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes a 1987 article published in Alaska Magazine identifying the lake as Dalteli Lake; and

WHEREAS, according to the information provided in the proposal, the lake is surrounded by a variety of berries, including blueberries, high bush cranberries and cloud berries growing along the shore; and

WHEREAS, historically the Dena'ina fished, hunted, and gathered wild plants in and around the lands between the Chugach and Talkeetna Mountains in Upper Cook Inlet; and  
 WHEREAS, the spelling comes from the 1977 Dena'ina Noun Dictionary, a publication of the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks, which defines Dalteli as berry buds in the Upper Cook Inlet dialect of the Dena'ina language; and  
 WHEREAS, the long term and widespread use of the name, descriptive nature of the surrounding plant life, and the linguistic evidence make this name appropriate for the lake; and  
 WHEREAS, a search of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), the Federal authoritative source of official geographic feature names, maintained by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) found no other feature with the name Dalteli; and  
 WHEREAS, a search of the Alaska Mapper, a web-based geographic information system (GIS) that allows you to locate Alaska land records information by navigating an interactive map of the state, found no other feature with the name Dalteli; and  
 WHEREAS, a search of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's water body database found no other feature with the name Dalteli; and  
 WHEREAS, according to the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation, Natural Resources Specialist II, Mr. Cory Glover, there have been no public hearings held on this proposed name; and  
 WHEREAS, there have been no public comments received as a result of the public noticing; and  
 WHEREAS, notification of the proposed name and a request for comments was mailed to local residents, sent to the Trapper Creek Community Council, published in the Frontiersman Newspaper, and posted at the local post office and nearby grocery store; and  
 WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed this application with respect to standards and procedures for the Borough to comment on such proposals set forth in MSB 15.04.025; and  
 WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on April 5, 2021, on this matter. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska- Susitna Borough Planning Commission, acting for the Assembly, recommends approval of the proposed name of Dalteli Lake for an unnamed lake in the Matanuska- Susitna Borough.  
 ADOPTED by the Matanuska- Susitna Borough Planning Commission this 5th day of April, 2021."

Mat Su Frontiersman (Newspaper)

Richard Porter, Executive Director, Knik Tribal Council

Mountaineering Club of Alaska – Steven Gruhn replied 03/10/2021 on behalf of the MCA Geographic Names Committee:  
 "The MCA's Geographic Names Committee endorses the proposal to name the lake at the head of Trapper Creek as Dalteli Lake."

Trapper Creek Community Council – replied 03/31/2021: "The Trapper Creek Community Council (TCCC) supports the proposed name "Dalteli Lake," for the unnamed lake partially within Denali State Park and wholly within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The unnamed lake is within Township 28 North, Range 6 West, Section 3 and Township 29 North, Range 6 West, Section 34, Seward Meridian, which is within Trapper Creek Community Council's defined area. A request for a letter of support to make official the name Dalteli Lake was received during the Public Forum of the March 18, 2021 meeting of the Trapper Creek Community Council. After viewing maps of the location of the unnamed lake, reviewing the application that was submitted to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and open discussion; a motion was made by J. Grelson to give a letter of support; the motion was seconded by J. Morrill. It passed unanimously. TCCC supports the efforts to make official the name Dalteli Lake. Signed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2021."

Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks

James Kari, Linguist – replied 02/01/2021 "My comment on the elaborate name proposal from Mr. Robinson is that we have been striving for the accurate spelling of Native language place names...The Robinson proposal cites the 1977 spelling of Dalteli. Can you please convey to Mr. Robinson that I applaud the fact that this name has been in use locally since the 1980s and that I would support the name if it is spelled as it is said in Dena'ina, i.e. Dalteli Lake."

Also, J. Kari 02/18/2021, "I support the name Dateli Lake or Daltehi Lake. since we have the recent trend and preference for accuracy in spellings, this should be the case for coined names. Here are a few lines from Dena'ina dict. (DRMDD)  
 under root .rt tutl' /kick, explode/  
 ..th G+I+tutl'  
 tc suc

gl \*burst, \*boom, \*explode, \*erupt, fog, weather front moves, plant \*blossoms  
com can refer to glacier, volcano, avalanche, cloud cover, as well as blooming of plants  
...n **dalteli**  
dial U  
gl budding berry plants"

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
<b>Roger Robinson</b>			
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
	<b>P.O. Box 606, Talkeetna, AK 99676</b>		
Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
<b>Judith E. Bittner</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>(907) 269-8700</b>	
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology	<b>550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565</b>		
Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone		Occupation

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